



United States
Department of
Agriculture

Forest
Service

Okanogan-Wenatchee
National Forests

215 Melody Lane
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December 2002

Dear Reviewer,

Enclosed you will find the I-90 Wilderness Study Report and Draft Legislated Environmental Impact Statement (DLEIS) in the format that you requested. As stated in the November 2002 mailing, if you did not respond to the postcard mailer we are sending you the draft summary. If you indicated that you would access the document on the World Wide Web, it is now available at:

www.fs.fed.us/r6/wenatchee/planning/i-90-wilderness-study.pdf



This documentation is necessary to meet the October 19, 1998 legislation commonly referred to as the Interstate 90 Land Exchange Act of 1998. Section 610 of this Act established an approximately 15,000-acre Alpine Lakes Wilderness Study Area. Please note that the Study Report and DLEIS does not make a determination as to which parcels should or should not be designated as wilderness. Rather, it responds to the legislated direction to review the study area as to its suitability for preservation as wilderness. The final decision as to which parcels should be recommended, if any, to Congress for designation as wilderness will be made by the Secretary of Agriculture at the conclusion of the NEPA process.

Because you have shown interest in this project and to ensure a complete analysis, we are asking you to help by reviewing the I-90 Wilderness Study Report and DLEIS and providing comments. It is important to us to have public participation; we are providing a 60-day comment period and have scheduled three public meetings. These meetings, using an "open-house" format, will be held to answer questions regarding the content of the Study Report and DLEIS and to provide you an opportunity to comment on the document. The public meetings are scheduled as follows:

January 14, 2003 – 5 to 8 pm	January 15, 2003 – 5 to 8 pm	January 16, 2003 – 5 to 8 pm
Hal Holms Community Ctr 201 N Ruby Ellensburg, WA	Summit Inn 603 State Route 906 Snoqualmie Pass, WA	Snoqualmie Ranger District 42404 SE North Bend Way North Bend, WA

At this time, I am recommending the following parcels as suitable for preservation as wilderness: Parcel 1, Parcel 2a, Parcel 3a, Parcel 4b – Option 1, Parcel 5a, Parcel 6a, Parcel 7a, Parcel 8, Parcel 9, and Parcel 10a.

For further information please contact Floyd Rogalski at the following address or phone number 509.674.4411, x315. Please send comments to: I-90 Wilderness Study, Attn: Floyd Rogalski, 803 West Second St., Cle Elum, WA 98922. **Comments must be postmarked by: February 18, 2003.**

Sincerely,

SONNY J. O'NEAL

Forest Supervisor

Okanogan / Wenatchee National Forests

encl: as requested

